

# Bainbridge Island Sustainability Forum 4/26/2010

## World Café Table Top Notes

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Conservation RE-Think!

Buying Packaging

Assets: Cooperation

Free-cycle

Rotary Auction

[www.recyclebank.com](http://www.recyclebank.com) – credits-

recycling businesses?

Carbon credits for food forest

Jump right to D

-where do we go from here?

Live where we work – work where we live.

-small neighborhoods around BI eg. Lynwood/rolling bay/port Madison

- walkable/ sailable: water based restaurants and shops and communities

-more attractive welcoming harbors

-facilitated business growth/improvement

Need fiber-optic broadband and electrical reliability to support businesses

Waste Stream Changed

- water bottles – why needs – easy

- electronics recycling

follow up comment on water bottles –

why in first place bottle? How about refill.

Bought the marketing, pure “spring.”

Trash analysis

Enviro-stars/source

Big picture

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### B. How did we get here?

#### Positives:

- Bike paths – in response to people
- More incentives for “good behavior”
- Environmental education as part of core curriculum
- Localizing the conversation
- We grew up with clotheslines and more home grown products

#### Negatives:

- Public policy encouraging bad practices
- Limited affordable housing
- Labor pool lives off island
- Low income jobs
- COBI revenue dependent on growth
- “Stigmatize”/discourage “bad” behavior (eg MADD)
- Demographic (older population)

- Business has to grow to cover costs
- Fix more things – make it cost effective
- Cradle to grave – consumer products
- Be more European
- Big picture – gotta use less
- Develop business to do more services, less growth
- Develop business to do repairs – no place to fix things
- Gotta grow or produce more

- Everyone wants land
- More density - more open space

Value land for more agriculture or more jobs here less travel to Seattle.

- Challenge not just BI it's Kitsap
- Redefine boundaries

Optimism – kids are getting it

Older population, environmental education.

Change incentive. Stigmatize

Collaboration

- Kitsap County
- Wider coverage by local newspaper

Planning for future

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How do we plan for climate change  
How do we balance competing interests

Go Green! Carrot Stick!

Planning for future/Action steps

Vision:

- Goal toward zero waste
- Move away from use of extractive fossil fuels
- Sustainable diverse economic base
- Responsible population
- Creating
- Responsible use of electricity

Action:

- Begin to evaluate/benchmark energy use
- Becomes energy conservation program
- Create high value low material with high human value added with own natural resources
- Intellectual connections and internet connect
- Better spot for innovation
- Virtual technology

Negative:

- Lack history of intellectual property (need to create mind set change)

1) take, 2) make, 3) waste physical degradation, 4) respect

Bounty gardens  
Socially positive  
Doing less

Vision of a sustainable diverse local economic base.

Whole island as a sustainability retreat center

- Person powered transport – foot, bike, and kayak
- Biodiesel from waste water + rotary auction

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Farm to Table – Nash’s organic store there

Communities

Connectivity

Village Centers

Localizing Resources

Shifting - village walkable bikeable connection

Centers of activity – lynwood center, energy centers, distribution

Rolling Bay Coffee Social Safe Walk Too Small

Reward people for using less electricity house size car size

System that encourages good behavior

Small or no garbage cans

We are challenged by the culture of entitlement that allows individuals to build walls and dismiss their personal responsibility

Failure to see the relationship between personal inaction (not being energy conscious) and climate change because “I can afford my utility bills”

Lack of available zoning for cultivating business

Greed

Lack of planning

Lack of evaluation within our planning in order to determine whether the plan is actually achieving the goal. Did the planning process miss the importance of good infrastructure and community planning?

Finding alternative revenue sources which renders our community (public services) more sustainable

Where are we now? – in a hole

Our community is fractured we lack a unified identity due to leakage. Challenges we face is our failure to recognize our “lifestyles” are not sustainable

We are challenged by the lack of connectedness to the community therefore lack of awareness of issue in the community.

Work from home: DSL connectivity, Create me work

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Will each individual are make enough money to be sustainable

We do produce a sufficient quantity of the goods we consume to achieve sustainability

Big CFD for bringing goods to and removing waste from the community

Service businesses are challenged by not being sustained by the local market

Insufficient education

Transportation – negative

Bike – need more bike paths

Manufactured here: food, berries, lumber, fishing, boat building, agriculture

Reward for doing right – stigmatize for not

Conservative get credit

Different fares ferries

Summer homes to infrastructure

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### Biggest sustainability challenges

High price of shopping local – cost vs. value

How to educate to effect change

Commuter population - priorities, \$, life, work in Seattle. How to bring it home?

Affordable housing and living wage

Water

Obstacles to infrastructure projects – turn problems into benefits

### Gateway all things sustainable

Bainbridge Cultural workshops, highlight what we do well.

### Rethink

How many people can we feed if feeding locally?

### Artist residencies

### What live on

### Corvallis municipal

Waste water county changing attitude – it's a resource

Infrastructure, \$ and needs

Digester process – biodiesel

Obstacles to infrastructure projects

Upstream conditioning

### Clearing house

Bremerton watershed (forest) – spray sludge from sewer plant in forest

One of the biggest challenges is current economy. The cost of doing right thing is an investment. Kitsap county is first in state to adopt LID standards. Up front cost but long term less.

Culture design issue – build up infrastructures so you do right thing

Do education so agree sustainability worth goal, then incentivize business, personal, and cultural.

When things are good, not thinking about it.

When not good, look at it and now take time to promote that small is beautiful.

Rethink – property rights, individual freedom, density is bad

Modeling land use patterns. Need paradigm shift. For example Chicago per capita basis less co2 impact

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### Baseline

Positive	Negatives
BIEC	Energy usage – other areas of Puget Sound
New collaboration new model to address issues and challenges for positive perspective shift	Status bigger is better. Stigma gives power tool (ie: mothers against drunk driving)
Energy Business	Remove social permission
Incentivize	Ignorance of law of sustainability is no excuse
Hard edge – upstream/ downstream scenario	

### Core Values

Talent on island: Islandwood, Yes! Magazine

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T.E.A.M. – together everyone annoys me

If BI isn't able to live on development what will we live on?

Where is the sustain in sustainability?

Round

- 1) where are we now?
- 2) how did we get here?
- 3) where do we want to be: where do we go from here?

Share best practices visible to public and customers

Encourage COBI to carry the message, lead/walk the talk

Continue the conversation raise awareness/ education through discussion groups growing locally self care/share tools

Significant # of people not connected here

Island seen as a refuge  
Sustainability is not just one thing!!

Develop sense of collaboration (consensus).

How are we going to move forward as a community?

Children go back to taking buses. Parents don't need to drive their kids to school

It's convenient to use too many resources

How many children carpool? Create carpools what is the incentive? Do better job of communicating with the school district or parent organization. Better bike paths and rite of passage.

Lifestyle choices: accepting electrical shortage. How much internet is good enough?

Consumerism vs. consumption:  
Obesity/obscene  
Consumption is not sustainable  
Throwaway society

Current Drivers:  
Financial crisis  
Our current pain in our environment will require social change  
Education vs. judgment

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Lack of overall awareness

Positive:

- Bettering income from connecting helps living on island
- More community/accessibility i.e. involvement improved ability to interact in community
- Living here is more investment in the community

Negative:

- Commuting to live off island uses time and energy (fossil fuels)

Personal:

- Transportation – parents can help create culture. Creating culture benefits community and creates quality time.

Business obstacles

- Keeping the business in the community (stay local)
- Educating people to use resources that we have
- How do you reach the broader audiences?
- How do you not continually reach the same audience?

Individual vs collective:

- Not “funnel” thinking
- Transportation for children
- Bainbridge rush hour
- Using a bus isn’t cool + weather, or a timesaver or practical

Keep talking to each other

Put successes into newsletters

Chamber facilitates effort by coordinating local enviro. Groups

Top down needed from government regulations

Danger of giving businesses energy star like ratings

But: consumers need easy way to identifying green businesses

Column on sustainability issues

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### End Goals and Action Steps

- 1) clearing house of existing groups, communication/education
- 2) diverse community – innovation
- 3) economic perception between cost and value (redefine value)
- 4) re-skilling
- 5) youth – service work, volunteer work, education
- 6) benchmarks – energy, education
- 7) what is the next plan?
- 8) neighborhoods

rethink waste beyond recycle - better solid waste, zero waste  
get more people involved

\$ Economic funding available? Prioritizing?

Lacking good internet communications to allow more to work from home

Appealing environment, good central location, unreliable electricity

Brain drain – young tend to go off island, we lose talent to global and commuter life.

Fostering growth of small businesses don't do enough

Growth – to grow or not to grow – conservation what is healthy growth?

### Biggest challenges

Quality and quantity of water

Recognizing we have larger community opportunities ie kitsap peninsula

Commuting leads to services/energy going away from island

Diversity is challenging with affordability challenges (economic cost makes this challenging)

What is our common achievable goal?

What synergies are possible?

Define obstacles: what commonality exists. Potential for special interest groups ie is recycling a solution.

We have awareness-

- limited
- our sense that fragmentation is coming together
- but don't know how to step toward the limitations

We have interest

- willingness to build consensus
- quality of life drives our interest

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Real physical investment change is tough

- grocery industry i.e. refrigeration changes
- big education investment i.e. CFL light bulbs aren't disposable in regular trash

How did we get here?

Negatives

Positives

Negatives	Positives
Relying on cars	We have water based transportation
Housing spread out	Rich farming in center of island
We lost industry responsibility for early growth	We can now, by bridge, have great freedom in living here
We have failed to control waste water to levels tech. exists	We've reforested island (1/2) appealing environment privacy
Allocated too much land for housing VS agriculture	
We export people commuter society less identified with community	New technology can allow more folks to work from home

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Come home to BI don't just sleep here, live here.

Affordable housing/living wage

Improved zoning for small businesses and inhospitable zoning for chains

Awareness is growing

Dialogue more

Abundant

Greater willingness

Culture changing

Tipping point

Lead standards

Effort to increase agricultural growth in farmers market

Good business role models

Increase in communication for bartering swapping etc. . .

We export human capital

Services missing

Waste creosote sewage

Recycling issues

To go culture

Housing zoning, agricultural land, loss of trees

Negatives –

- Growth – can't be forever growing

- New economical development model needed

- Money – maybe the problem

- We can grow trees – sawmill

- Not labor based anymore

- Incorporation from Kitsap county

- Perception of elitism from others

- Urban growth zoning

- Boundaries of sustainability

- Proximity to Seattle can be a problem

- Effects of recession & unsustainability

- \$ business \$ government \$

- flat lined how do we adjust

- are we diverse enough?

- Water quality and quantity:

  - Some say we have enough water

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Not enough being done

BI ripe for development

Commuter communities

Growing population – less community cohesiveness, separateness and  
gentrification

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- Affordable housing
- power, and water limitations
- can farming community live side by side with bedroom community
- less diverse business to serve various needs
- what are other forms of commerce exportable off island
  - service providers
  - geography of island makes export expensive

\$\$\$ triple edge sword

Alternative revenue

Rental market rate

Affordable housing positive as well as lightening

Conversation – sharing ideas and visions

People can't afford to live here

Diversity businesses

Small foot print

Tax rate/foot print – smaller house lower tax rate access value

Centralized plan – blue print

Community network

Synergy – unified vision, come together

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Resources – large lots  
Access – hearts we are  
Neighborhood feel  
Local economy  
Bed  
Vibrancy  
Produce – Bainbridge brand  
Market can bare  
Condo living – community gardens  
Island gentrified big \$\$  
Choices we make  
Environmental recovery economic recovery  
Changing cultural mind set  
How goes schools so goes your community  
Islandwood  
Group coordination  
More community buy in  
Able to support social services we developed  
Wealthy community  
Local government financially constrained  
Money makes many things happen  
Were do we want to be, what are the steps?  
Population control  
Family farms  
Green to save green  
Vision: more connected economically sustainable  
BI use to be - vacation destination, rely on ship building lumber, and agriculture.  
Remember the past  
Positive: brings money to island  
Negative: Commuters lots of people off island – people tired. Mistrust of gov. causing impediment to action.  
Purchasing from own community!!  
Zoning laws – vision  
One Earth  
Buffers aquifers  
Group coordination  
Low impact development

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How did we get here?

Positive	Negative
Preserved 1000 areas of open space (land trust)	Slow development policy choices

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Problem: low density, size of a small county  
 But population much smaller  
 Very low tax revenues per person

Make it an advantage:

Encourage visitors to come see what we like here  
 Encourage small businesses here with professionals who love living here

### Consumerism

Positive	Negative
Generate prosperity	Convinced we need more than we do
Innovation standardizing	Built in obsolescence
Creates jobs	Disposable products
More affordable mass production	Unrealistic expectations

Food + energy  
 Independence  
 BI urban food forest  
 CH2M Hill Built municipal digester for city of Corvallis

Get local establishment to focus on community rather than profit  
 Extending the boundary of community beyond BI  
 Recognize connection and interdependence with the rest of Kitsap county  
 Perception price = value  
 Adapting sustainable practices = costly  
 Shopping on BI costs more  
 Improved tourism  
 Sense of community vs. profit from community  
 Free commerce promotes greed  
 How do you have a business on growth and remain sustainable?  
 Sustainability vs. saving for the future “retirement”  
 We live on an island we must import and export  
 Become incubator/catalyst/accelerator to new businesses large and small  
 Age challenge (3%) 20-30 year olds are minority because they can’t afford to live and work here.  
 Low density lifestyle  
 Low businesses density  
 Local retail dependent of tourism  
 Biggest challenge = changing attitude  
 Environmental activity is marketable  
 Transportation